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### Army and Navy News

The test of the big guns of the Diamond Head mortar battery was by no means as satisfactory in all respects as has been stated, according to a rumor that is current and which was published in an afternoon paper yesterday. This is to be the effect that the 16-ton easting upon which one of the guns rests and upon which it is turned was broken completely in two during the firing of the full service charge last week. In addition to this, the trunnion was broken, which renders the gun entirely useless unless it can be repaired, which can not be done any where except at the factory. As the trunnion is east on the gun and is a part of it, it will be difficult if not impracticable to repair it. Both Major Winslow and Captain

Platt, who tested the guns, stated repeatedly that the test was in every respect safisfactory and that the mortars stood it without damage. Evidently they had forgotten the little matter of one of the mortars being put out of commission by the firing. The seven other guns, however, so far as can be learned at present, are uninjured. It is believed that the breaking of the easting was due to a defect which had not been discovered. Major Winslow disclaims responsibility for the story. Efforts to get any statement from him in regard to the matter were fruitless, though possibly the next Paradise of the Pacific will have a picturn of the break and an official de-

#### Fleet to Test Wireless.

WASHINGTON, July 6.-Wireless telegraphy will play an important part in the war game of the Atlantic fleet during the summer maneuvers off the New England coast next month.

Admiral Schroeder's flagship, the Connecticut, has been equipped with a set of high-powered wireless telegraph apparatus and the scout cruisers Chester and Birmingham, when they reach the United States from Liberia, also will be equipped with similar instruments. The scout cruisers, which for the first time will participate in the war exereises, will figure in some of the important problems to be worked out by Admiral Schroeder, and the wireless telegraph will come into play in these evo-

While the battleship fleet is at sea practicing this summer the experiments will be made with it in long-distance wireless telegraphy. At Brant Rock, Mass., a high-powered station has been erected, and at this point Lieut.-Commander Cleland Davis and Lieut. George Sweet, experts of the navy in wireless telegraphy, will watch the work between that station and the vessels of the Atlantic fleet carrying the highpowered instruments.

#### Increase in the Army.

The standing army will be increased by 1,000 men as a result of two general orders recently issued by the Secretary of War. One of these adds 500 men for duty with army recruiting parties at the general recruiting depots and in the reeruiting branch generally, making 8000 instead of 7,500 with that service. The other order establishes the new branch to be known as the service schools detachment. It is made up mostly of staff non-commissioned officers attached to the Army War College in Washington, the artillery school at Fort Monroe, the eavalry and infantry and staff schools at Forts Riley and Leavenworth, the hospital corps schools and the schools for bakers and cooks. This detachment will be separated from the rest of the army, but similiar in organization. In the new detachment there will be 550 members. This brings the total authorized strength of the regular army up to 79,358, not including the Philippine scouts, of which the aggregate strength is 5,731- and the Army Hospital Corps, of which the total strength is 3,500.

#### Personal and Otherwise.

Lieut. Comdr. F. H. Brumby has been ordered to the Virginia as navigator. Lieut. Comdr. A. W. Hinds, detached Virginia, to home and await orders. Ensign C. S. McWhorter to the Des Moines; Midshipman M. C. Robertson to the Mississippi, and B. L. Lankford appointed paymaster's clerk, West Vir-

Lieutenant Arthur Poillon, Fourteenth Cavalry, U. S. A., now in Washington, D. C., is relieved from duty as aid-de-camp on the staff of Brigadier-General Tasker H. Bliss, U. S. A., and and tear of torture. will report in person to the chief of staff for duty in his office. He is detailed to enter the Mounted Service School and will report on October 1 to the commandant of the school at Fort Riley, Kansas.

The Twenty-sixth Infantry, U. S. A. commanded by Colonel Charles A. Booth, U. S. A., will arrive on the transport Sheridan from the Philippines on July 15.

Brig. Gen. Winfield S. Edgerly has been relieved from command of the post at Fort Riley, but will continue to perform the duty of commandant of the Mounted Service School.

The Governor of Hawaii has asked that the reservoir and pipe line on Diamond Head Military Reservation on Oahu, Hawaii, be not included in the reservation, says the Army and Navy Journal. The matter has been taken up and thoroughly considered at Washington and the decision is that it would not be advisable to give the Territory the northeast slope of the crater for use as a reservoir, but that there would be no objection to allowing the recession of the southeastern slope for the purpose indicated. The matter has not. however, been decided and will be taken up by the Secretary of War later in the

The newspaper report that white troops are to be sent to Fort Brown at Brownsville is said to have no official foundation. It is not likely that the War Department will ever again make use of Fort Brown as a military post. It has been turned over to the Department of Agriculture for special scientific purposes.

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